

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04321 110625Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----027879 111804Z /47

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 4321

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SA, IS, US
SUBJECT: CROWN PRINCE ON ALLEGED MEETINGS WITH ISRAELI OPPOSITES

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR BEING
REPORTED SEPTTEL, CROWN PRINCE FAHD WAS INFORMED BY
PHONE THAT FRENCH PRESS HAD CARRIED STORIES ABOUT
ALLEGED SECRET MEETINGS BETWEEN EZRA WEIZMAN AND FAHD
IN MARBELLA, SPAIN, AND BETWEEN PRINCE SULTAN AND
MOSHE DAYAN IN GENEVA. CROWN PRINCE CALLED REPORTS
"NONSENSE", OF COURSE," PERHAPS GENERATED BY FRENCH
COMPANIES DISGRUNTLED ABOUT NOT OBTAINING ARMS CONTRACTS
DURING KING KHALID'S RECENT VISIT. WHEN SPECIAL
COUNSELOR ISA SABBAGH JOKINGLY ASKED CROWN PRINCE IF
WEIZMAN HAD NOT PERHAPS SLIPPED INTO SAUDI ARABIA,
CROWN PRINCE GOOD NATUREDLY SAID AS FAR AS HE KNEW WEIZMAN
HAD NOT BEEN TO SAUDI ARABIA. BUT IF HE HAD COME,
FAHD SAID WITH BROAD SMILE, "I WOULD HAVE RECEIVED
HIM WARMLY*"

2. COMMENT: FAHD REMARKS ON RECEIVING WEIZMAN WERE
JESTFUL AND NOT TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY, BUT WE THINK
VERY FACT TOP SAUDI LEADER MADE THEM ILLUSTRATES
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HOW FAR SAUDIS HAVE COME IN RECENT YEARS TOWARDS
ACCEPTING ISRAEL AS PART OF MIDDLE EAST SCENE.
WEST

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NNN

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